

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7980

INFO AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00438

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, OCON, SHUM, UK

SUBJECT: UNESCO MEETING OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS TO
DRAFT A DECLARATION ON RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE,
PARIS. JANUARY 26-30

REF: (A) STATE 4128, (B) LONDON 305, (C) LUXEMBOURG 22

1. PETER MAXEY, HEAD UN DEPARTMENT, FCO, WHO
ATTENDED EC UL AFFAIRS REPS MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG
JANUARY 8, CONFIRMED THAT GROUP DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE
THAT EC NINE SHOULD ATTEND SUBJECT MEETING. HE SAID
APPROACH TO UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW. CITED
REF C, WILL STRESS NEED FOR MEETING TO BE DIVIDED
BETWEEN GENERAL DEBATE AND DRAFTING SESSIONS. HE
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HOPES THAT BY DIVIDING MEETING IT WILL BE EASIER TO

AVOID CONFRONTATION OVER RACISM/ZIONIST QUESTION. THERE WAS ALSO, ACCORDING TO MAXEY, AGREEMENT THAT THE NINE WOULD REACT VIGOROUSLY TO ANTI-ZIONIST QUESTIONS. HE SAID THERE WAS "IMPLICATION" THAT MEMBERS OF NINE WOULD WALK OUT AS THEY DID AT THE MASS MEDIA MEETING SHOULD UNACCEPTABLE RESOLUTIONS BE PUSHED. HE SAID THE DUTCH WERE STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF THIS COURSE OF ACTION BUT THAT SEVERAL OTHER UNNAMED COUNTRIES WERE RELUCTANT TO COMMIT THEMSELVES.

2. MAXEY SAID EXPERTS MEETING CONCLUDED WITH DECISION TO RECOMMEND TO POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING ON JANUARY 19 THAT NINE ATTEND SUBJECT MEETING UNLESS DELEGATES FIND STRONG OBJECTIONS TO THIS COURSE OF ACTION ON THEIR RETURN HOME. HE DOUBTS STRONGLY THAT OBJECTIONS WILL BE RAISED. IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT OBJECTIONS WOULD CAUSE QUESTION OF ATTENDANCE TO BE REOPENED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT JANUARY 19 MEETING.

3. MAXEY ALSO CONFIRMED THAT LUXEMBOURG REP REPORTED AT EXPERTS MEETING THAT US WOULD NOT ATTEND SUBJECT MEETING. HE DOES NOT RECALL ANY MENTION OF OUR HOPE THAT EC NINE WOULD FOLLOW SAME COURSE. THIS POINT THUS WAS NOT DISCUSSED BY EXPERTS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT THINK THIS WOULD HAVE DISSUADED EXPERTS FROM RECOMMENDING ATTENDANCE. HE SAID THERE WAS A GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO MAKE EC'S VIEWS KNOWN AND TO SHOW WILLINGNESS TO OPPOSE ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTIONS.

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